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changes, and it is to be regretted that Dr. Matthews did not tabulate this in each case.

Perforation of the olecranon fossa was found in a great proportion of the bones. This has already been discussed in this journal by Dr. D. S. Lamb. The suggestion that it was due to natural causes, such as the pressure occasioned by grinding corn, is ingenious and plausible, but needs to be confirmed by observations on other peoples who have this habit. The anatomical configurations due to occupation are by no means well understood.

We are greatly impressed with the thoroughness and care with which this investigation has been conducted, and it is greatly to be regretted that the author had not a larger series of skeletons of our indigenous tribes with which comparisons could be made.

While there seems to be considerable foundation for Dr. Brinton's view, expressed in the last number of the *ANTHROPOLOGIST*, that the peculiarities of these bones are due mainly to the habits and food conditions of the people, yet it cannot escape the notice of the thoughtful naturalist that it is by precisely such influences that marked varieties and species of animals are believed to originate. What is an evanescent character today may by inheritance become persistent.

FRANK BAKER.

Eleventh Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, 1889-'90. By J. W. Powell, Director. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1894. Roy. 8°, xlvii, 553 pp.; pls. and figs.

The Bureau of Ethnology has been zealously endeavoring to fix in distinct record all the accessible evidences of the Indian's work upon this continent before the white man came.

The volume named is among the most important of its issues, containing, in addition to Director Powell's statement of the work of the year, a number of valuable scientific papers upon special lines of investigation.

The first paper, 157 pages, is that of Mrs. Matilda Coxe Stevenson, who has had a rare opportunity and has used it well. She accompanied her husband on explorations in the west, entering heartily into the spirit of his studies, which she has continued since his death. She has been welcomed as a sympathizing friend in the homes of Indian women, and has had a view of

their domestic life which no man could have. The Spaniard with his horse could not crush out the people whose social and ceremonial customs she describes, but before the popular notion that all Indians were roving, without settled homes or agriculture, is overcome the Anglo-Saxon with the steam-engine will have obliterated them. The poor people of the little pueblo of Sia have been reduced to a paltry hundred, but Mrs. Stevenson has caught their story from the old people, and she publishes it while there is yet opportunity to cross-question a few of the personal and material witnesses. The stories in which the animals take on human attributes illustrate the community of mental action in mankind. Esop's fables, Grimm's tales, Uncle Remus, and the Sia animal myths have much of a common quality.

The last statement applies also to kindred stories told by Lucien M. Turner in a hundred pages devoted to ethnology of the Ungava district, Hudson Bay Territory. This paper is the plain story of the life of Indians and Eskimo adjacent to the northern part of Labrador, popularly supposed to be utter desolation. A few hundred of these people maintain themselves in such relative prosperity that the Hudson Bay Fur Company finds it profitable to keep a post among them. The life of Arctic people in the United States is so perverted that it is no longer a promising field for original studies. These Ungava people have been modified somewhat by trading with whites, but the general story of their present lives represents the power they have developed in a severely adverse climate. They are not in such immediate danger of obliteration as the Sia, but Mr. Turner's work will grow more valuable for preservation as changes prevent its duplication.

James Owen Dorsey is well known for his linguistic work, from which his two-hundred-page study of Siouian cults is but a partial variation. This paper is especially devoted to religious beliefs and ceremonies.

All these authors have personal acquaintance with the people they describe and are witnesses of the things they have seen. The bibliographic lists of Messrs. Mallory and Dorsey are important.

The papers are profusely illustrated. In the interest of truth they are ready for the tests of candid criticism, which ought to be prompt that it in turn may be tested before the last witnesses disappear.

JAMES H. BLODGETT.